

**Abstract**

5       A method of electronically tracking and locating a very large  
number of objects such as, but not limited to, personal case files in health care,  
law, or human services systems is described. Each object to be tracked has an  
attached miniature radio transmitter called a tag which sends a coded signal to a  
network of receiver base stations with limited but overlapping reception ranges.  
Each receiver base station places in its own memory the time at which a record  
10       enters its range, remains in range, and the time at which it leaves. The various  
receiver base stations are interconnected to a host computer. By polling the  
memories of each receiver base station, the computer is able to determine the  
current location of any record.